Village of Ardentown

Ardentown, Bel. 19810

NOTICE

TOWN MEETING

AT THE CANDLELIGHT THEATRE

MONDAY, MAY 13, 2002 7:30 P.M.

AGENDA (PARTIAL)

- 1. Elections: Public Works and Safety Committee; 2 year term; 3 members

 Audit Committee; 1 year term; 3 members
- 2. Charter of the Planning Committee: Open discussion and voting
- 3. Trustees' Report: Chris Coburn will be stepping down

Please plan to attend. We have several items that need to be voted upon.

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THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF ARDENTOWN WAS CONVENED AT 7:30 P.M. ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2002, OLIVER GUTSCHE, CHAIR, PRESIDING. A QUORUM WAS PRESENT.

In attendance were:

1. Lisa Wilson Riblett

2. Oliver Gutsche

3. Betty Solway Smith

4. Sally Decker

5. Doris J. Boller

6. Cheryl Regan

7. Cindy Cohen

8. Steve Cohen

9. Dotty Verne

10. Annie Gutsche

11. Chris Coburn

12. Enno Krebbers

13. Joy Mulholland

14. Lesley Holden

15. David Scott

16. Linda Lynch

17. Gilbert L. Johnston

18. Sheila Johnston

19. Maureen Gordon

20. Warren Butt

21. Drew Hansen

22. Terri Hansen

23. Hardy Hoegger

24. Mary Ann Nelson

25. Betty Ann Themal

26. Bob DeNigris

Non-resident:

1. Bob Pollock, Ardencroft

Communications: Oliver Gutsche, Chair

Oliver reported that we have a **peeping Tom** looking into windows in our Village. This peeping Tom seems to be especially interested in young boys. He has been observed looking from public lands i.e. the greens. He is a white male, about 5'10", approximately 175 pounds, and is presently living on the perimeter of our Village. Please call the police if you see anyone looking into windows on private property or see any inappropriate behavior.

Registration Committee: Dotty Verne, Chair

New residents 2304 E. Mall: Pat Finn and Roxanne Johnson

2303 E. Mall: Basha Clossic, Apt. 3

Dotty reminded everyone that you must be a resident for six months before you can vote at Town Meetings.

Approval of the Minutes:

The minutes were unanimously approved.

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Checking Account Balance: \$527.10 Savings Account Balance: \$3,994.06 Municipal Street Aid: \$2,660.04 Arden Building & Loan: \$36,783.91 Total Funds Available: \$43,965.11

Elections:

Memorial Garden Committee: Betty Solway Smith, Betty Ann Themal, Rusty

Hoegger were all unanimously re-elected for another four year term.

Public Works and Safety Committee: Steve Cohen agreed to fill a vacancy.

Trustees' Report: Bob DeNigris

The complete Trustees of Ardentown Budget Report for 2002 is on file with the Secretary for anyone who would like to see it. Bob reported that there were increases in expenses and consequently land rent has been raised. Also, a school referendum is due soon which is likely to increase our expenses. Bob also noted that the way we handle Snow Removal Expense has been changed. The Trustees have decided to give the Village \$5,000.00 per year for snow removal. If we don't spend this amount, the remainder belongs to the Village of Ardentown. If we need more money for snow removal in a given year, the Trustees will give the additional funds to the Town. Chris Coburn reported that we are not in too bad of shape regarding gypsy moths. We don't qualify for State money to treat them. Chris suggested spraying with Spick & Span to dissolve the waxy covering of the egg mass. We did lose a tree to gypsy moth on Marsh Road last year. We will keep an eye on this situation.

Betty Ann Themal reported for Harry Themal that it looks like the Omni Point Tower is likely to be at the Naamans Road Fire Station.

Bob noted that a speaker came to Arden to discuss our native trees disappearing from this area which in turn causes the birds which are native to this area to disappear because they feed off of the bugs and trees that are no longer here. A copy of trees native to this area which encourage native birds to return is on file with the Town Secretary for anyone who would like to reference it.

Budget/Assessment Committee: Betty Ann Themal for Jack Brandner, Chair Betty Ann reported that Hans Francke is the new chair. The committee and the Town are grateful to Jack Brandner for his years of service as chair of this committee. A copy of the Village of Ardentown Budget for 2002 is attached.

Public Works and Safety Committee: Cheryl Regan for Page Dwyer, Chair

- 1. DelDOT did a temporary fix on the **pothole at Swiss Lane and Harvey Road** which is already beginning to deteriorate.
- 2. Federal Emergency Management Agency books "Are You Ready? Your guide to disaster preparedness" were distributed. The Town Secretary has one on file for anyone who would like to see it.

Old Business:

- Our BWVC Committee representative, Mary Ann Nelson, reported that the BWVC now allows two Ardentown reps on the committee. Betty Solway Smith was unanimously elected to fill this new position.
- 2. Annie Gutsche is waiting for the grant paperwork to come for the **Playground** improvements. This paperwork is due in June.
- 3. Bob DeNigris reported that the **Town Watch Committee** is due to have a meeting soon. Bob encouraged everyone to volunteer. Oliver asked for someone to please consider being involved with this committee as the Ardentown rep. Bob said he felt it would take some time at the beginning to get this committee up and running but after it is set up it should not be too time consuming. Bob explained that the Town Watch's goal is to be visible and give a sense of presence. Cindy Cohen volunteered to be our rep from Ardentown.

New Business:

- 1. Planning Committee. Oliver said years ago we had a Planning Committee which addressed long term issues of the Town. It would be good to reinstate this committee for issues like trees, demographic issues, interaction with surrounding communities, and other issues. Oliver said he would like to hear from other people about how they feel. Hardy said the Sunnyside Tract should be included. Betty Solway Smith said the Planning Committee was rolled into the Civic Committee (now the Public Works and Safety Committee). Oliver said he is willing to be part of the committee. David Scott, Hardy Hoegger, Lesley Holden and Betty Ann Themal also agreed to be part of this committee. At this time, it will be an ad hoc committee with the goal of establishing an agenda and a mission statement. Bob DeNigris said he is glad we are trying to get this going as a separate committee again. Oliver will call a meeting soon.
- 2. Harvey Road Traffic Calming Committee. Enno Krebbers gave a brief history of the HRTCC for the benefit of our new residents. Enno displayed the suggestions that DelDOT had provided on large poster boards. He asked for comments and questions. Hardy Hoegger expressed serious concerns about DelDOT's approach. Hardy is concerned about the fact that they are proposing to do things that DelDOT admits they do not know if they will work to help calm traffic. Bob Pollock (Ardencroft) said DelDOT has been very generous with their charts and drawings. Bob P. said that DelDOT had reasons for not granting some of our requests. Bob P. feels that the group of DelDOT people we are presently working with are trying very hard within the parameters that they have to deal with. Cindy asked if Enno feels this is our only opportunity. Enno does not feel this is the end but feels that they will negotiate further. Bob P. feels this may be it. Lesley did not care for the arches that were proposed. Doris spoke in favor of the arches. Enno explained that DelDOT's thinking was that the arches gave a sense of community. Enno also noted that these arches would be at DelDOT's expense. Mary Ann said she likes the arches and that it does give a sense of community and definition. Oliver said he would like to see the

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HRTCC's work continue even if we were to install these arches. Betty Ann asked if this has been done. Enno said not as such. Drew said it is very important that we all go 25 mph. Much discussion continued. After the meeting was adjourned, Enno stayed to answer questions and hear concerns.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Wilson Relief

Lisa Wilson Riblett

Secretary